

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00294 251530Z

64

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 NEA-09 IO-10 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 /075 W

----- 036661

R 241455Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0518

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS CONAKRY 0294

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR GV LE

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF SEVEN LEBANESE PRISONERS

REF: CONAKRY 0255

1. AFTERNOON FEB 24 GOG RELEASED SEVEN LEBANESE PRISONERS HELD SINCE EARLY 1971 TO VISITING LEBANESE VICE PRIME MINISTER MICHEL SASSINE. RELEASED AND REPORTEDLY DEPARTING VIA SABENA FLIGHT 423B FOR BRUSSELS ON FEB 25 WERE: JOSEPH ZAIDAN, HICKMAT ABOUKHALIL, MOHAMED KLEIT, GEORGES BITAR, KASSIM HILAL, PIERRE AMINE, MILHIM MALKOUN. SEVERAL OTHER PRISONERS OF MIXED LEBANESE/FRENCH/GUINEAN NATIONALITIES WERE NOT RELEASED, INCLUDING MICHEL AMINE, HALF-BROTHER OF ONE OF RELEASED MEN. THOSE RELEASED WERE GENERALLY IN GOOD HEALTH, ALTHOUGH WEAKENED.

2. SASSINE ANNOUNCED SMALL PROGRAM OF PROVIDING LEBANESE EXPERTS IN AGRICULTURE AND EDUCATION SECTORS, AND HAS MADE SERIES OF EFFUSIVE SPEECHES PRAISING SEKOU TOURE, PARTICULARLY FOR HIS SUPPORT OF ARAB CAUSE AGAINST ISRAEL.

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3. PAPAL NUNCIO FROM ABIDJAN STILL IN CONAKRY ALSO, PRESUMABLY

AGAIN SEEKING RELEASE OF ARCHBISHOP TCHIDIMBO, BUT WE NOT
AWARE OF ANY PROGRESS WITH THAT CASE.
MACDONALD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, PRISONERS RELEASE
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Draft Date: 24 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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Subject: RELEASE OF SEVEN LEBANESE PRISONERS
TAGS: PFOR, GV, LE, (SASSINE, MICHEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006